

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 1, first paragraph:

Cross-Reference to Related Applications

This application claims priority under 35 USC §119 to Finnish Patent Application No. 20030601 filed on April 22, 2003 and is the national phase application of PCT/FI2004/050048 under 35 U.S.C. § 371.

~~Background of the Invention~~

Field of the invention

The invention relates to a method for manufacturing an optical fiber preform ~~according to the preamble of the appended claim 1.~~ The invention also relates to a manufacturing apparatus ~~according to the pre- amble of the appended claim 6.~~

Background of the invention

~~Description of the state of the art~~

Page 3, second paragraph:

To attain this purpose, the ~~method according to the invention is primarily characterized in what will be presented in the characterizing part of the independent claim 1. The manufacturing apparatus according to the invention, in turn, is primarily characterized in what will be presented in the characterizing part of the independent claim 6~~ method of forming one or several material layers inside a basic tube, which basic tube is used in the manufacture of an optical fiber preform, includes one or more sequences of the following steps in which an electrical charge is arranged in a first material, the electrically charged first material is guided inside the basic tube, a charge is arranged on the inner surface of the basic tube by arranging the charge from the first material on the inner surface of the basic tube, guiding of the first material inside the basic tube is finished, an electrical charge is arranged in a second material, the charge being opposite to the charge of the first material, the electrically charged second material is guided inside the basic tube, the charged second material is brought on the inner surface of the basic tube, and guiding of the second material inside the basic tube is finished.

A manufacturing apparatus, in turn, includes a charger operative to electrically charge the first material. T manufacturing apparatus also includes a guide operative to guide the first material inside the basic tube for charging the basic tube, a charger operative to electrically charge the second material in such a manner that the first and the second material have opposite charges, a conveyor operative to convey the second material inside the basic tube, and elements to alternate the first and the second material to be guided inside the basic tube.

Page 3, third paragraph:

~~The other, dependent claims will present some preferred embodiments of the invention.~~